

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 047483

50/71

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 L-03 H-03 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 SCS-03

SCA-01 PRS-01 RSC-01 /060 R

66603

DRAFTED BY:EUR/NE:CLFLOYD

APPROVED BY: EUR/NE:WILLIAM A. BUELL, JR.

L - CROH (SUBS)

H - MR. SCHNEE

EUR/NE:NGANDREWS

----- 057523

P R 082249Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SUVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047483

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (2 LINES OMITTED PARA 4A SUB-PARA 3)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BRTA, UK, NH

SUBJECT: NEW HEBRIDES LAND DEALS

REF: LONDON 2536 AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPARTMENT REPS FROM H, L, EA, AND EUR SPENT LENGTHY SESSION ON MARCH 7 WITH OFFICIALS AND ATTORNEYS, FOR AMALGAMATED LAND CO.: PEACOCK, PRINCIPAL DEVELOPER; GANLEY, HONOLULU ATTORNEY; AND CURTIS, AUSTRALIAN ATTORNEY FROM NEW HEBRIDES; WEAMS, ADMIN ASSISTANT TO SENATOR INOUE ALSO ATTENDED. FROM MATERIAL PRESENTED BY AMALGAMATED, IT APPEARS THAT (A) COMPANY MAY, IN FACT, HAVE A CASE TO PRESENT, AND (B) FCO MAY NOT BE IN POSSESSION OF ALL RELEVANT DATA.

2. IN ORDER TO BE RESPONSIVE TO SENATOR INOUE'S REQUEST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 047483

AND TO ASSURE APPROPRIATE PROTECTION OF INTERESTS OF US FIRM

EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY LARMOUR TO ALLOW AMALGAMATED REPRESENTATIVES MAKE FULL PRESENTATION OF THEIR CASE FOR FCO CONSIDERATION. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO ACCOMPLISH THIS EXCEPT IN FACE TO FACE DISCUSSION. IT IS EXPECTED THAT GANLEY AND CURTIS, ATTORNEYS FOR THE FIRM, AND WEAMS WOULD ATTEND. SENATOR INOUE ALSO PLANS COME TO LONDON FOR THE MEETING IF HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS. WE BELIEVE THAT A SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICER SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE GROUP. (FYI: THIS WOULD ENABLE US TO GET A FULL AND UNBIASED ACCOUNT OF MEETING FOR FUTURE REFERENCE).

3. TIMING: WE UNDERSTAND THAT A MINISTERIAL MEETING BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND FRENCH ON NEW HEBRIDES AFFAIRS IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 19. IF THIS MEETING IS STILL ON, EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT FOR MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK. IF IT HAS BEEN POSTPONED, APPOINTMENT FOR AMALGAMATED SHOULD BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY TO PRECEDE THE MINISTERIAL SESSION BY APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

4. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, TEXTS OF TELEGRAMS FROM SENATOR INOUE TO FONSEC DOUGLAS-HOME (MARCH 4) AND PM WILSON ON MARCH 7 FOLLOW:

A. SIR ALEC: DEAR SIR: I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. RICHARD SYKES, BRITISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN WASHINGTON, WHO RELAYED YOUR RESPONSE TO MY JANUARY 31, 1974, LETTER CONCERNING THE NEW HEBRIDES LAND REGISTRATION PROBLEM.

I WAS MOST DISTRESSED AND DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT YOU FELT THAT THE PROPOSED MEETING WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO BE FRUITFUL. THIS STANCE I MUST ADMIT SURPRISES AND PUZZLES ME FOR THE MEETING I PROPOSED WAS TO BE AN INFORMATION AND VIEWPOINT EXCHANGE NOT A POLICY DEBATE.

AS WAS NOTED IN YOUR EMBASSY'S LETTER THE LAND REGISTRATION PROBLEM IS INDEED "A VERY COMPLEX SITUATION." I SHOULD THINK THAT ANY OBJECTIVE INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THIS PROBLEM WOULD WANT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL AVAILABLE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 047483

DOCUMENTED INFORMATION GERMANE TO THE PROBLEM. AS I AND MY STAFF HAVE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS STUDYING AND RESEARCHING NOT ONLY THE HAWAIIAN POSITION BUT ALL POSITIONS I FELT THAT THIS INFORMATION WOULD OFFER A VARIED YET VALID VIEW OF THE EVENTS AS THEY HAVE OCCURRED IN THE NEW HEBRIDES AND ELSEWHERE. THUS I REQUESTED A FORUM WHERE THIS INFORMATION COULD BE SHARED.

I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU THAT I AM MOST SYMPATHETIC TO THE NEW HEBRIDES NATIVE'S POSITION OF PROTECTING THEIR RIGHTS AND LANDS. HOWEVER I HAVE RECEIVED COMMUNICATIONS FROM NEW HEBRIDIAN NATIVES ASSURING ME THAT THEY SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF AMALGAMATED AND INFORMING ME THAT SUCH DEVELOPMENT WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH SUCH NATIVE CLAIMS. I FULLY REALIZE THAT GIVEN THE WORLD-AND COMMON-WEALTH-WIDE ARRAY OF PROBLEMS FACED DAILY BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THE NEW HEBRIDES PROBLEMS ARE MINISCULE. BUT THIS PROBLEM DOES EFFECT THE LIFE SAVINGS AND RETIREMENT PLANS OF THOUSANDS OF MY FELLOW HAWAIIANS. AS THEIR

FINANCES AND LIVES HAVE BEEN IN LIMBO EVER SINCE 1971, THEIR POSITIONS BECOME EVER MORE UNTENABLE AND THEIR LIVES DISRUPTED AS TIME DRAGS ON. I THEREFORE APPEAL TO YOU TO RECONSIDER THIS ISSUE. THERE HAD BEEN AN INDICATION THAT A PRELIMINARY MEETING WITH MR. J. W. NICHOLAS, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC DEPENDENT TERRITORIES, WAS POSSIBLE AND THAT SUCH A FACTUAL EXCHANGE MIGHT OCCUR AT THAT LEVEL.

I WOULD LIKE TO RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT SUCH A MEETING BETWEEN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, AMALGAMATED LAND INC., MY STAFF AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE BE SCHEDULED. IT IS FULLY RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WOULD ONLY BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMATION TO BE EXCHANGED WITH THE HOPE THAT FULL COGNIZANCE WILL BE GIVEN THE SUPPLIED MATERIAL.

WITH GREAT RESPECT. END TEXT.

B. MR. WILSON: DEAR SIR: I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR REELECTION AS PRIME MINISTER OF ENGLAND. I HAVE LONG BEEN AN AVID
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 047483

STUDENT OF THE BRITISH SCENE AND IN RECENT TIMES I HAVE BECOME QUITE TROUBLED AT THE SEEMINGLY ENDLESS LIST OF PROBLEMS THAT HAVE CONFRONTED THE BRITISH LEADERSHIP AND PEOPLE. IT IS MY HEARTFELT HOPE THAT YOU AND YOUR NEW GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS AND TO REESTABLISH BRITISH PROSPERITY.

I HAVE BEEN IN RECENT CONTACT WITH THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE ON A PROBLEM WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO CALL TO YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION. THE ISSUE INVOLVES THE LAND REGISTRATION PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THOUSANDS OF HAWAIIAN INVESTORS IN THE NEW HEBRIDES. THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS NOW AND CONSTITUTES AN EVERMORE SERIOUS CRISIS IN THE FINANCIAL LIVES AND RETIREMENT PLANS OF MY FELLOW HAWAIIANS. THESE

ISLANDERS INVESTED IN FULL FAITH WITH AMALGAMATED LAND, INCORPORATED, AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPERS WITH THE PROSPECT OF REESTABLISHING THEIR LIVES EITHER THROUGH VACATIONS OR RETIREMENT LIVING IN THE NEW HEBRIDES.

IN ADDITION, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO CHARGES OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST AMERICANS AND ESPECIALLY HAWAIIANS THAT HAVE REACHED MY OFFICE AND TROUBLED ME GREATLY.

I AM PRESENTLY WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH DR. KISSINGER OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON THIS ISSUE AND I MOST RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM. THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE HAS FROM TIME TO TIME GIVEN SOME ATTENTION TO REVIEWING THE NEW HEBRIDIAN SITUATION. HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S EFFORTS HAVE NEVER ADEQUATELY INCORPORATED WHAT I CONSIDER TO BE THE FULL VERIFIABLE FACTS OF THE SITUATION AND HAVE NOT GIVEN ANY STUDY WHATSOEVER TO THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW.

IN AN EFFORT TO SIMPLY PROVIDE THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE WITH THIS INFORMATION SO THAT IT CAN HAVE A FULLY DOSSIER ON THE NEW HEBRIDIAN PROBLEM AND PRIOR TO ANY NEW POLICY REVIEW, I MOST RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU TO SCHEDULE A MEETING BETWEEN THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE, MY STAFF, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 047483

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND AMALGAMATED LAND, INC. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO PROVIDE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION WHICH I HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED AND HAVE PRESENTED TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND WHICH I BELIEVE MAY SHED NEW LIGHT ON THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM.

YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER IS MOST APPRECIATED NOT ONLY BY ME, BUT BY THOUSANDS OF MY FELLOW AMERICANS AS WELL. ALOHA. END TEXT.

5. PLEASE ADVISE. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITIZEN PROTECTION, INVESTMENTS, TRUSTEESHIPS (UN), LAND OWNERS, FRAUDS, DEPENDENCY GOVERNMENT, INVESTMENT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE047483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/NE:CLFLOYD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740356/aaaacahz.tel
Line Count: 213
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LONDON 2536 AND PREVIOUS
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW HEBRIDES LAND DEALS
TAGS: PFOR, BTRA, PBOR, ETRD, PGOV, UK, NH, US, (PEACOCK)
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005